



*Tena koutou, tena koutou, tena koutou katoa nga mihinunui kia koutou mo nga
ahuatanga o te wa*

Ko Hikurangi te maunga

Ko Waiapu te awa

Ko Te Whanau o Iritekura te hapu

Ko Ngati Porou te iwi

Ko Hamiora Mangakahia toku papa

Ko Mercia McMahon toku mama

Ko Haki Taoho Watene toku hoa rangatira

Ko Huhana Watene toku ingoa

Unionism has been a significant part of my life, from a whanau background, my father was a water-side worker and my grandfather a die-hard trade unionist. And for the past 22 years while employed at Unitec Institute of Technology, I have been a part of the union structure in various roles. Each one building on my understanding and appreciation of the union's philosophy – this has been an extremely empowering experience

ASTE and now Te Hautu Kahurangi o Aotearoa has provided a solid platform for my personal and professional growth which I genuinely believe, will hold me in good stead for the role of Te Tumu Arataki – this is a decision I have not made lightly

Continuity is often associated with stability as is a commitment to initiatives. Of paramount importance for me, is the welfare and security of Maori members in TEU. This has come from tikanga directed by our Te Kaumatua Roopu, Dr Huirangi Waikerepuru, Whaea Mere Broughton and now Matua Hone Sadler and long standing Kuia Whaea Ka, who have all placed strong pou based on appropriate protocols for our roopu to uphold. Te Toi Ahurangi guided by the Pou Tuara, Lee Cooper whose ongoing guidance combines effortlessly with the Tumu Arataki, which has become cohesive, proactive and necessary from a Maori members' perspective – this I whole heartedly believe.

Finally, my commitment to the Union and this new quest is being unwaveringly supported by my husband Haki, aku kotiro, aku mokopuna and my wider whanau at Unitec.